

Blackmail Letter Scam



Everyone has secrets, and fraudsters using a new blackmail scam are banking on that.

In the Blackmail Letter Scam, victims receive a letter stating that the sender has information about a “secret” that could be harmful to the victim if revealed.

The con artist may claim to have emails, photos or other proof of an affair or some other scandalous situation. The scammers demand payment, often in bitcoin, in exchange for their silence.

In reality, the letter is a ruse and the blackmailer doesn't actually have any damaging information about the victim.

To learn about other frauds, visit <http://da.lacounty.gov/community/fraud-alerts>

Helpful Tips

- Don't trust letters or emails that make outrageous claims or demands.
- Don't make payments to unknown entities with bitcoin by phone, online or in person.
- Change your email and social media account passwords if you receive such a letter, as hackers often sell lists of compromised account holders to blackmail scammers.

Hello Paul,

I'm going to cut to the chase. I know about the secret you are keeping from your wife. More importantly, I have evidence of what you have been hiding. I won't go into the specifics here in case your wife intercepts this, but you know what I am talking about.

You must pay me \$10,000. It is my confidentiality fee. Your secret remains your secret. You go on with your life as though none of this happened. Though you may want to do a better job at keeping your misdeeds secret in the future.

**IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU
KNOW HAS BEEN THE
VICTIM OF A SCAM, PLEASE
CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY.**



Jackie Lacey
District Attorney

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